

Club Repeaters W6RGG/R 147.24+, 442.200 (107.2PL)



JUG

NEXT NCCC MEETING! TUESDAY NIGHT, JUNE 18 AT HP SANTA CLARA

Great Pizza and soft drinks at 6:30; Meeting at 7:30

The agenda will include an update on WRTC and selection of the NCCC goals for the next year. Should we make an effort to win the SS gavel again? (You mean it isn't *permanently ours*?) Should we direct a major thrust toward the ARRL DX contest, which will allow our members' DXpedition scores to count for the club, for the first time this year. What about CQWW, and WPX? Please come to this one, and make your feelings known! You can also convey your preference when you send in your dues!

JUGHEAD'S MESSAGE

I really want to make the JUG "relevant" to the interests of the NCCC membership. The way to make it relevant to your personal interests is for YOU to help me by making JUG contributions: technical articles; antennas; amplifiers; software articles; operating hints (see "Ken's Pen in this issue for a good example!); contest station arrangement; single-op, multi-single; multi-multi; pictures of your station; biographical notes about great testers you have known; funny anecdotes about your experiences; notes about really bad operating practices you have heard. Now, don't anybody say you don't have something to share from at least one heading in that list! Spend a couple of minutes and write it up.

Submit it to me by e-mail to:

g.daught@forsythe.stanford.edu

by telephone 408 732-2676 or by snail-mail to:
1560 Klamath Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087,

with that order preferred ...

tnx es 73, AB6YL

FIELD DAY SOCIAL & MEETING

The traditional Field Day meeting will be held at Peggy's place on Field Day weekend from 10AM Saturday, June 22 until 2PM Sunday. This meeting is a great place to meet members and significant others, and to get (or to GIVE!) some low-pressure contesting experience, both CW and SSB, using a famous callsign! Then there's the BBQ and refreshments supervised by Al, WR6R, for those who feel they need a break from the contesting effort. If you'd like to attend let it be known at the meeting on the 18th, so we can give Al a headcount (mouthcount?).

NCCC ELECTION RETURNS

There was a good turnout at the last meeting, and a new set of officers was elected to serve NCCC during the next year.

Let's welcome:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| President..... | Carl Cook, AI6V |
| Vice President/CC | Jim Hollenback, WA6SDM |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Dick Dievendorff, AA6MC |
| Directors | Ken Silverman, WM2C |
| | Ed Muns, W0YK |
| | Dave Curtis, NG0X |
| | and Andy Faber, AE6Y. |

THE BIG NEWS AT VISALIA & DAYTON: WRTC!

If you were there, you couldn't help but notice the excitement that WRTC was generating in both places. In fact, the featured speaker at the Contest Banquet in Dayton was NCCC's own W6OAT, who by the way, was also honored at Dayton by induction into the CQ DX "Hall of Fame". Rusty described the phenomenal cooperation, collegiality, and camaraderie which was experienced by those in Seattle for WRTC '90, an event staged as the amateur radio counterpart of the "Goodwill Games" in the same city that year. After that event, it was tacitly assumed that the next WRTC would be held in the Soviet Union.

As we all know, the Soviet Union is no more, and such an event sponsored in any of the states of the former union is likely to be some time off.

About a year ago the NCCC membership voted to sponsor WRTC '96, and since that time a distinguished group of NCCC members has dedicated a great deal of time and effort to organizing that event. They have raised nearly all of the money needed. They have arranged for a "host hotel." They have obtained a group of 52 "1x1" callsigns, W6A-W6Z and K6A-K6Z, for the competitors during the 18 hours of the competition. They have acquired blanket approval from the FCC for the competitors to operate with US extra-class privileges during the competition, even when the competitors are from a nation which has no reciprocal operating agreement with the United States! They have acquired a network television crew to produce a video program featuring the competition and associated activities. They have arranged for awards for the competitors and for other stations who work the competitors during the IARU contest in July. They have arranged social events, picnics, tours, and other non-contest activities for the 52 teams which will be competing. So you see, the organizing committee has done a very complete, competent and professional job, and we owe them an expression of our thanks.

Now it's our turn. Each of us can give something to make this magical expression of amateur radio brotherhood a success in every way. What can we do? Glad you asked! Carl, AI6V, who "hit the ground running" at the May meeting after accepting the presidential gavel from Kenny, offered several answers to that question. Here is the first article in the

series from our new club president, which presents a detailed list of areas where our help is greatly needed.

THE COOK BOOK

I'm elated to have been elected President of the NCCC, and I'm determined to make this the best year ever for our club. To do this, I'll need your help and your input. Come to the meetings and make your wishes known! One thing I'm really excited and proud about is the NCCC sponsorship of WRTC-'96! The NCCC is going to get big-time goodwill and good press from this event *all over the world!* Here are some ways that NCCC members can contribute to making the event a complete success.

Offer your station as a site for competitors or as a "demonstration station." If you've got a tribander at 30-50 feet, and a dipole for 40 meters, then you're a natural as a competition station. If you've got a big-time, major big-gun station, then it's perfect for a demonstration station! Contact Bob, W6RGG by phone at 510-537-6704 NOW!

Offer your car and your driving and 2-meter skills as a member of the transportation corps. If you can drive around the bay area on any (or all) of the days between July 9-15 (inclusive), then call AA6MC at 408-978-9234 as soon as possible.

If you have funds or equipment to donate, the donations qualify as income tax deductions. Contact Dave Leeson, W6QHS, by phone at 408-353-1927 as soon as possible!

If you have some technical abilities, and you can help repair mike cables, install computers and help make them RFI-proof, hang 40-meter dipoles, and do last-minute fixes and whatever else may be required, please call me, Carl, AI6V, at 510-685-9370.

Now, who can offer some sunspots?!

JUNE'S CONTEST CALENDAR

| | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| June 8 | Portugal Day |
| June 8-9 | TOEC WW Grid Contest, CW |
| June 8-10 | ARRL June VHF QSO Party |
| June 15-16 | All-Asian DX Contest, CW |
| June 15-16 | SMIRK QSO Party |
| June 22-23 | ARRL Field Day |
| June 22-23 | RSGB 1.8Mhz Contest |

VP/CC BULLETIN

The election last month signals the start of a new year for the club. Many members of the club are deeply involved in WRTC 96, but shortly after that it's time to decide on the contesting focus for the 1996-1997 contest season. This year there are some interesting things to consider. 1) The NCCC has won an amazing and unprecedented four SS gavels in a row, and it would be neat to make it *five*. 2) The ARRL DX contest rules now allows DX-peditions to count for the club score. It is appealing just to dream about the possibility of the NCCC winning this one at last! 3) The NCCC dynasty fell in the WPX contest in 1995 (our focus was all out SS if you recall); should we try to regain our top spot in this one?

Another big event for the club is our own CQP. This is a "fun" contest and many of the logs sent in have comments about how much fun everyone had. This contest is also a lot of work. If you would like to help out this year contact me and I'm sure we can find something you can do to make this the best, and most fun, CQP to date.

It's unfortunate, but I won't be up on packet for a couple of months, so you'll have to send your results via mail or internet. My internet address is jholly@cup.hp.com

CU next month, Jim, WA6SDM, VP/CC

KEN'S PEN

A Contest Tip from WM2C

"The band isn't closed until the contest is over" I just added this phrase to my contesting philosophy, based on a recent experience in this year's WPX CW event. If you were on, you all know that conditions were quite poor. But a once a band has closed for the night, don't assume that it's going to stay closed!

I was the main 15m operator at a M/M at N6RO's station (signing K3EST). 15m was flat on Saturday, with only a few JA's in the log during the normal opening (we had around 400 JA QSOs at the same time during the SSB WPX just a couple of months ago!) Then the band died at around sunset, which is what one would normally expect.

During the day, I had been chasing a spot for VK9GA, but I never heard a dit from them. Then late Saturday evening, at around 11 PM local, I saw another spot for VK9GA - but I assumed that it was from Japan and I would never hear them.

But I decided to check it out anyway... there was nothing else to do except sleep! I listened on the spotted frequency for a few minutes, but heard nothing but receiver hiss.

Just as I was putting the headphones down, a faint signal came out of the noise. It was VK9GA! One call, and he was in the log. Hmm, maybe there are some other stations around. Nothing heard. But I decided to call CQ. Hey, a JA called! Then another, and another!

By then, I was spotted in Japan, and I had a packet pileup (the spot actually made it to the USA system, and it was on our bandmap!) The JA activity kept up until around 1 AM local time, and I also worked some rarer stuff like HS and BV. This definitely was the highlight of the openings for this contest. (While this opening is normal during the peak of the sunspot cycle, it was totally unexpected at the bottom of the cycle with the present conditions.)

The point I am making is that you should never assume that when a band has "closed" for the day/night, that it won't open again. If a band has died, but you know that it CAN support communications under normal conditions, it is worth periodically checking it to see if the path has opened up again.

Best of luck, Kenny, WM2C

URGENT ARRL BULLETIN 96-9A QST to all Amateurs

May, 1996 Strafford, VT

from:
NEW ENGLAND DIVISION DIRECTOR
Bill Burden WB1BRE; wb1bre@arrl.org

NEW ENGLAND DIV. VICE DIRECTOR
Warren Rothberg WB1HBB; wb1hbb@arrl.org

2 Meter AND 70 cm BANDS THREATENED

This is no joke!! ARRL has learned that in preparation for the world radio conference in 1997, representatives of the LOW-EARTH-ORBIT (LEO) industry proposed a list of candidate frequency bands for reallocation to, and exclusive use of, the mobile satellite service. This list includes 144 - 148 MHz (the current amateur 2m band) and 420-450 MHz (the current amateur 70 cm band)!

If this effort were to be successful, it would mean the end of amateur operations on these two most heavily utilized amateur VHF/UHF bands!

I have included the text of Dave Sumner's upcoming editorial for July QST in this bulletin. ARRL, as the principal representative of Amateur Radio in Washington, is actively pursuing this issue. Dave's call to action is serious!! We could lose these bands if we do not take action now!!

Club presidents and newsletter editors: please make this information available to your membership as soon as possible.

The following is Dave Sumner's QST editorial:

*(the following is reprinted with permission
from July 1996 QST... ab6yl)*

WRITE NOW!!!!

Get out a pen and paper, or boot up your computer. There's work to be done! Your help is needed to defend two meters and 70 cm. Yes, that's right -- the two most popular and crowded amateur VHF/UHF bands! But don't panic, and don't "go ballistic."

Here's what's happening, and what you can do about it.

The United States is preparing for the 1997 ITU World Radiocommunication Conference, WRC-97. In the past, the public has been able to participate in the preparations for such conferences by responding to FCC Notices of Inquiry. In March, the FCC announced a streamlining of its International Bureau's preparatory processes for WRCs. Under the new scheme, the NOIs have been

eliminated in favor of increased emphasis on WRC Advisory Committees.

For WRC-97, a series of Informal Working Groups (IWGs) of the Advisory Committee has been created to address specific agenda items. The output of each IWG will go directly to a joint FCC-NTIA-Department of State Steering Committee of the Advisory Committee. There, draft proposals as received from the IWGs will be reviewed and forwarded to the FCC for possible release as preliminary U.S. proposals for public comment.

In announcing the streamlined WRC preparatory process, the FCC tried to reassure those who might be concerned about reduced opportunities for public participation: "Interested parties should note that input to the Advisory Committee may be sent at any time directly to the Chair of the WRC-97 Advisory Committee; the Chairs of the Advisory Committee's Informal Working Groups; Cecily C. Holiday, FCC's federal officer of the WRC-97 Advisory Committee, or C. Ladson, the alternate federal officer."

Hold that thought while we shift gears to the substance of the issue.

One of the WRC-97 agenda items includes consideration of possible additional frequency allocations for the mobile- satellite service. So-called "little LEOs," low-earth orbit satellites below 1 GHz, already have allocations. Their proponents claim these are inadequate and are trying for more. The needs of little LEOs are being addressed in IWG- 2A, chaired by Warren Richards of the Department of State. The ARRL technical relations staff participates in IWG-2A to represent Amateur Radio interests.

At the May 7 IWG-2A meeting, an industry representative proposed a list of "candidate bands" for little LEOs. The list includes a number of bands that would negatively impact existing services, and does not include others that would be technically more feasible but to which strong objection from incumbents could be expected -- the point being that some political, rather than purely technical, judgment already has influenced the list.

Incredibly, 144-148 and 420-450 MHz were included on the list! This is the first time in memory that another service has been proposed for the two-meter amateur band. We must make sure it is also the last time.

We do not need to explain to ARRL members

(write now! continued)

the extensive use that is made of these bands by amateurs. The two bands provide the backbone of our local public service communications effort. Voice and data, mobile and fixed, even television -- the list of present amateur uses is a long one, and of future uses is even longer. Both are already used for satellite services and for moonbounce and extended-range terrestrial operations requiring extremely sensitive receivers and high levels of effective radiated power.

Apparently we did need to explain all this to the little LEO industry representatives, so we did just that - both at the meeting and by letter on May 15. We also explained that we had to regard the matter as extremely serious. No one with the slightest background in radiocommunication could possibly believe that mobile-satellite service could be introduced into either band without disrupting existing and future amateur operations. Therefore, we said, if we did not receive assurance that they would be taken off the list of candidate bands by the deadline for this issue of QST, we would have no choice but to bring the matter to the attention of the entire membership.

The response received was unsatisfactory. In effect, we were told the little LEO industry would consider our views but that until their spectrum needs are satisfied, all bands must remain under consideration.

So, this is a call to action. We must get across to the industry and government participants in IWG-2A that the 144-148 MHz and 420-450 MHz bands cannot be considered as candidates for mobile-satellite services. We need to drive the point home so forcefully, with so many grassroots responses, that no one is ever tempted to try this again.

Which brings us back to that invitation for "interested parties" to send input "at any time." There's no time like the present! Here are the key addresses, including those of the mobile-satellite industry folks who seem to have started the ruckus:

Cecily C. Holiday
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554
choliday@fcc.gov
FAX (202) 418-0748

Warren G. Richards, Chair, IWG-2A
Department of State
CIP 2529
Washington, DC 20520
richardswg@ms6820wpoa.us-state.gov
FAX (202) 647-7407

Tracey Weisler
FCC Representative, IWG-2A
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554
tweisler@fcc.gov
FAX (202) 418-2824

Mary Kay Williams
Final Analysis, Inc.
7500 Greenway Center
Suite 1240
Greenbelt, MD 20770
FAX (301) 474-3228

Leslie Taylor, LTA
6800 Carlynn Court
Bethesda, MD 20817
ltaylor@lta.com
FAX (301) 229-3148

Do comment. But be civil. Don't abuse people who are simply doing their jobs. We have to get across that casting covetous eyes on amateur bands is counterproductive, and contrary to the public interest. To accomplish this we need a lot of comments, including yours. But remember that the objective is to educate and persuade, not to intimidate. We don't need to. The facts are on our side.

To monitor the FCC's ongoing WRC-97 preparations, visit its WRC-97 home page at:

<http://www.fcc.gov/ib/wrc97/>.

Write now. Right now!

-- David Sumner, K1ZZ

VANITY CALL SIGNS

GATE 1 OPEN MAY 31, 1996

Amateur operators who meet the following eligibility standards may request a vanity call sign on or after May 31, 1996. File your request on FCC Form 610-V. Legibility is critical! If the information on your application is not legible, you could experience a delay in processing, lose the opportunity to obtain a requested call sign or even obtain a call sign different from what you want. You must hold an unexpired amateur operator/primary station license grant of the proper operator class, as described below, to request a vanity call sign for your primary station. To request a vanity call sign for a club station, you must also hold an unexpired club station license grant listing you as the license trustee. Refer to the licensee data base to verify that the call sign you are requesting is not already assigned. A call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration, surrender, revocation, set aside, cancellation, void ab initio, or death of the grantee. See Fact Sheet PR5000 Number 206-V **AMATEUR STATION VANITY CALL SIGN SYSTEM**. For explanations of Groups A, B, C and D and the geographic Regions, see Fact Sheet PR-5000 #206, **AMATEUR STATION SEQUENTIAL CALL SIGN SYSTEM**.

REQUEST BY FORMER HOLDER (PRIMARY STATION) - For your primary station, you may request a call sign that was previously assigned to your primary, secondary, repeater, auxiliary link, control, or space station. When so requesting for your primary station: You may request your former call sign even though it has been unassigned for less than two years. The two year requirement does not apply to an otherwise eligible primary station if the call sign was previously assigned to a station of the requestor. You do not have to hold a class of operator license required for the Group (A, B, C, or D) for the call sign requested. A call sign request by former holder may be from any Group in the sequential system. Your mailing address does not have to be in the Region designated in the sequential system for the call sign requested. A call sign requested by a former holder may be in any Region.

REQUEST BY CLOSE RELATIVE OF FORMER HOLDER NOW DECEASED (PRIMARY STATION) - For your primary station, you may request a call sign that was previously assigned to the

primary, secondary, repeater, auxiliary link, control, or space station of your now-deceased spouse, child, grandchild, stepchild, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or in-law. When so requesting for your primary station: You may request the former call sign of a close relative now deceased even though it has been unassigned for less than two years. Upon the death of the holder, a call sign is assignable immediately to an otherwise eligible primary station of a close relative. You must be an Amateur Extra Class operator to request a Group A call sign. You must be an Amateur Extra or Advanced Class operator to request a Group B call sign. You must be an Amateur Extra, Advanced, General, Technician Plus, or Technician Class operator to request a Group C call sign. You must be an Amateur Extra, Advanced, General, Technician Plus, Technician or Novice class operator to request a Group D call sign. Your mailing address does not have to be in the Region designated in the sequential system for the call sign requested. A call sign requested by a close relative of former holder now deceased may be in any Region.

REQUEST BY FORMER HOLDER (CLUB STATION) - For the club station for which you are the license trustee, you may request a call sign that was previously assigned to that station. When so requesting for a club station: You may request your club station's former call sign even though it has been unassigned for less than two years. The two year requirement does not apply to an otherwise eligible club station if the call sign was previously assigned to the club station for which the requestor is the license trustee. You do not have to hold a class of operator license required for the Group (A, B, C, or D) for the call sign requested. A call sign request by former holder may be from any Group in the sequential system. Your mailing address does not have to be in the Region designated in the sequential system for the call sign requested. A call sign requested by a former holder may be in any Region.

A \$30.00 fee is required with your FCC Form 610-V application. Payment of fees may be made by check (payable to "FCC"), bank draft, money order or credit card. If paying by credit card, you must also complete and submit FCC Form 159 with your FCC Form 610-V. (Do not send cash.) Send your application package to the following address:

(vanity calls continued)

Federal Communications Commission
Amateur Vanity Call Sign Request
P.O. Box 358924
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5924

If you do not qualify under the above eligibility standards, your application will be dismissed. A future public notice will announce Gate 1A which will have expanded eligibility standards. For further information, contact the FCC Consumer Assistance Branch at 1-800-322-1117.

WRTC-96 PRESS RELEASE

May 25, 1996:

CHINESE AND LATVIAN EXHIBITION TEAMS

Two exhibition teams have been added to the lineup of stations which will be active in connection with the World Radiosport Team Championship competition on July 13 and 14, 1996. Attending from the People's Republic of China will be BA1OK and BA4RC plus their coach/observer BA1FB. The PRC

team will operate WRTC using the callsign AH3D.

Attending from Latvia will be YL2KL and YL3CW who will sign AH3C in the competition. Although these two exhibition teams will not be competing with the 52 official teams (which will be using the 1x1 callsigns W6A through W6Z and K6A through K6Z), they nonetheless will be operating from relatively similar stations and generally observing the same rules as the 52 official teams. Anyone working AH3C or AH3D during the competition may count these stations as "wildcards" for the purpose of qualifying for the commemorative deck of WRTC playing cards available to those who contact all 52 different 1x1 WRTC callsigns. AH3C and AH3D may be substituted for any two 1x1 callsigns otherwise missed.

For additional information about WRTC-96, contact Rusty Epps, W6OAT at 651 Handley Trail, Redwood City, CA 94062, USA or via e-mail at epps@netcom.com. Past press releases and related WRTC information are available by sending an e-mail message to wrtc-info@dumpty.nal.go.jp with the two commands #GET HELP and #GET INDEX on separate lines within the body of the message. You also may check the WRTC-96 Worldwide Web site at <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/n6ip>

...de W6OAT

USE THIS FORM TO PAY DUES FOR 1996-1997! (AND TO VOTE ON NCCC CONTEST FOCUS!)

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Name: _____ | Full Memberships | x \$24 = _____ |
| Call: _____ | Family Memberships | x \$12 = _____ |
| Address: _____ | Associate/Student | x \$12 = _____ |
| _____ | Donation to General Fund | _____ |
| _____ | Donation to Repeater Fund | _____ |
| E-mail address: _____ | TOTAL enclosed | _____ |

Please indicate your priorities for **three** contests you would like the NCCC to focus on in its 1996-1997 season. (A "1" indicates your choice for highest priority, "2" for second priority, and "3" for third.)

_____ ARRL DX Contest
_____ SS
_____ WPX
_____ CQWW
_____ Other Contest: _____

Comments: _____

Cut out the mailing label to the right, and use it to mail the renewal form, "ballot" and dues check to:

Dick Dievendorf, AA6MC
1211 Janis Way
San Jose, CA 95125 - 4050

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